## House Republican Press Release

March 28, 2006

Press Office: 860-240-8700

## **Googins Helps Rally for Diabetes Alert Day**



HARTFORD- State Representative Sonny Googins (R-Glastonbury) and the American Diabetes Association cosponsored Diabetes Alert Day today at the State Capitol. Representative Googins serves as the Connecticut and a National Advocate for Cure for Diabetes. Governor M. Jodi Rell has declared today Diabetes Alert Day in the state, aiming to bring

awareness of the risks of diabetes, and the health problems that can be associated with it.

A Reception was held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Atrium of the Legislative Office Building where ten advocates from Connecticut were honored for their work in the fight against diabetes. Also, blood glucose level tests were conducted during the day. Also, as part of the event, over fifty legislators became advocates, and will deliver diabetes literature to over 120 Connecticut towns, to be left in town halls, libraries and senior centers. Charles Mager, a 12-year-old youth advocate addressed the group.

Senator Joe Crisco (D) and Daneen Richards; ADA Executive Director, joined Representative Googins in presenting awards. The ten honorees include:

Steve Wronker – Reaching People Award – Hartford Walk 2005

Mark Peel – Recruiting People Award – Tour de Cure 2005

Warren Scholl – Raising Dollars Award – New London Walk 2005

Chad Nelson – Top Fundraiser Award – Tour de Cure 2005

Ray Hasson – Top Fundraiser Award – New London Walk 2005

Don Zettervall, RPh, CDE, CDM – Leadership Award – Diabetes EXPO 2005

Alan Budney – Volunteer Award 2005

Paula Santiago – Volunteer Award – Springfield MA Walk 2005

Ed Mercadante – President & CEO – Familymeds, Inc – 2006 Hall of Merit Gala Honoree

Dr. Robert Sherwin – Yale School of Medicine – 2006 Hall of Merit Gala

"This Day is a great way to celebrate the selfless dedication of a number of advocates in this state who have given a great deal of their resources, time, and effort in combating diabetes," said Representative Googins. "We do this while bringing added awareness to the medical risks and complications that can be associated with diabetes. Those who have diabetes must deal with it twenty-four hours a day, and our aim is to keep those who struggle with it healthy, while we ultimately aim at finding a cure."